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LETTER DATED 21 AUGUST 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ALBANIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you the following comments on your last report on the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force (UNPREDEP) (S/1997/631), discussed two days ago in the Security Council.

Having studied the report attentively, we have noticed with regret that there are some inaccurate statements in paragraph 17. We express our concern that the information that has been provided to you does not correspond to reality and is not based on the current facts. According to our information, during the unification congress of two major ethnic Albanian political parties in Tetovo, in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, there was no resolution or statement released by the leaders or on their behalf calling for parallel government structures, autonomous institutions or a pan-Albanian parliament and ethnic regionalization.

As was stated in the letter dated 16 July 1997 from the Albanian Minister of Foreign Affairs addressed to you (A/52/254-S/1997/567, annex), which is still under your consideration, Albania and the Albanians are trying to make their contribution to peace and stability in the still turbulent Balkan region. It is undoubtedly important to understand that the full integration and equal participation of the Albanian population in the life of that country is crucial for its durable stability and for the very existence of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

May I ask your kind assistance in circulating the present letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Pellumb KULLA
Permanent Representative

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